BRITISH TOPICS.

NOTES FROM LONDON.

MR. M. D. CONWAY TO COME TO AMERICA—EXAMINATION OF THE ACCOUNTS OF THE EMMA MINING COMPANY—AN ENGLISH ARMY OFFICER CASHIERED.

[FROM THE REGULAR CORRESPONDENT OF THE TRIBUNE.]

LONDON, Feb. 13.—You are to be richer and we are to be poorer next Autumn by one good American. My friend Mr. Conway—the Rev. Moncure D. Conway he used to be called—is going to the United States for a visit and a lecturing tour. Really going this time. His friends at home have so often been promised a visit from him and so often been disappointed, that I wish to assure them that my present announcement is made on the best possible authority, that of Mr. Conway himself. "At last," writes he in his characteristic way, "I have yielded to the voice of the tempter. I go to America in the Autumn for a turn at lecturing. I am told that I may arrange my journeyings so as to see my old friends also in many parts of the country. It has been so long said that I was going over that unless you say it is true, and that you have it on my authority, the lecturing platforms will pass over the report with contempt." Let the unbelievers believe that.

But I hardly know for my own part how to contemplate the prospect. As an American friend of his and mine, who has twice paid us a visit, wrote me not long since, "I cannot conceive of London without Conway. It would no longer be London to me." But I suppose we ought to spare him to you for a time. He does not hint what South Place Chapel is to do—whose voice is to be heard in the pulpit where his for so many years has gathered a faithful band about him, with many reënforcements of strangers who thronged to hear an American celebrity. Nor do I see how *The Cincinnati Commercial* is to supply the place of his letters—that quaint, fresh, original, racy correspondence which exposed to the Buckeye view so many sides of London life that nobody else ever saw, or could describe if he did. Mr. Conway's life here has been a very unusual one—very honorable to him in all ways. His is the rare case of an American coming, without assured employment, into the center of English intellectual life, a center crowded with ability, where talents elbow one another; where the literary work to be done bears but a fearfully small proportion to the number of men who want to do it—and succeeding. Mr. Conway made himself a reputation in England, all the while preserving and extending what he had previously gained in America. His acquaintance is wide and singularly various. He is going to lecture to you, among other topics, on London. When you have heard him, London will ever after seem to you a new place. French wits said of Dumas, on the appearance of one of his most famous books of travel, that he had discovered the Mediterranean. In a similar sense you will declare that Mr. Conway has discovered London. His views of England and English life are sure to be picturesque; his opinions will be his own, his judgment upon our cousins, ingenious, daring, possibly sometimes wayward, but always worth hearing. Whether you agree with him or not, you can't but love him and enjoy him. His other topics will be the Devil—whom he did not discover—and Oriental Religion. His studies for many years past have been much occupied with both these subjects. His now well-known book, The Sacred Anthology, showed how extensive his survey of the latter had been. Of that book the whole third edition has, by the enlightened liberality of a Scotch gentleman, been sent out to India for the members of the Brahmo Somaj. I do not know what the Brahmo Somaj may be, but the Scotch gentleman is not likely to throw away his money on unworthy objects. A fourth edition will soon appear, with a new introduction.

The examination of the books and accounts of the Emma Mine—under the petition to wind up that concern—is proceeding: an order of court having compulsorily put an end to the not unnatural reluctance of the managers to have its affairs looked into. Impossible to say yet what has been discovered, the inquiry being private. There seems reason to believe, however, that this scrutiny will go pretty deep into the mysteries that have hung about the matter. The Secretary of the Company attempted lately to refuse the explanation demanded of him respecting a certain cash item, but the Court compelled him to testify. It will all come out when the case comes on for hearing. Then, I suppose, we shall have the pleasure of seeing the name of the American Minister figuring once more in the English papers, with possibly some accounts of the way in which he was induced to become a Director and Trustee of the Company, and to allow himself to be advertised as such under the title of United States Minister to the Court of St. James.

Meantime, two more agreeable stories about him are in circulation. When you hear Gen. Schenck discussed, if by chance it is not in connection with the Emma Mine, it is almost certain to be Poker. People who are in the habit of meeting him say that his passion for this game brooks no restraint. As soon as dinner is over—or it may even be lunch, for poker is capable, in his judgment, of being played by daylight—the General begins to fidget for the cards. He may be seen making his way to the card-table, which he clears off with his own ministerial hands, and with his own hands also makes up the packs and divides the counters. The preparation of card-tables is usually, in this terribly aristocratic country, left to the servants, but Gen. Schenck has no prejudices, and cards, like *trente et quarante* at Monaco, are great levelers. His best known performance, perhaps, was at a country house when he sprang up from table—this was at lunch—seized a poker from the hearth, shouldered it, marshaled the company behind him, and led the way to the drawing-room where the card tables were laid, crying out to his followers, "In hoc signo vinces!" There were some who thought it profane; others who laughed readily both at and with the American Minister. It is perhaps still more remarkable that our representative recommends poker to his English acquaintances as "an epitome of American life!"

Sir Charles Dilke is back in London and in his place in the House of Commons. He went lately to Algeria in search of health, but the result hardly answered his expectations. It is not to be supposed that he is an invalid in the ordinary sense of the word. On arriving in London, however, he was laid up for a few days with an attack of chicken-pox. Having quite recovered from this, he is hard at work as usual.

Mr. McCulloch returned lately from America, and is once more at the head of his flourishing banking-house in Lombard-st. We are very much obliged to you for not keeping him any longer. Some eminent London financiers interested in American affairs seem to have expected Gen. Grant to suppress his personal prejudices for the good of his country, and make Mr. McCulloch Secretary of the Treasury. But they expected too much. Meantime American credit over here is perhaps as low as it has stood for a long time. A banker remarked to me yesterday that it is quite hopeless to bring out anything American unless of the most strictly first-class gilt-edged description. I said I was not sorry to hear it. We have had enough ventures tried of the speculative swindling kind.

The painful story with which all London has been busy this week received the most positive official confirmation last night. A paragraph in *The Gazette* is as follows: "Seventh Hussars: Major the Hon. Walter Harbord is removed from the army, Her Majesty having no further occasion for his services."

The plain English of which is that the Hon. Walter Harbord is cashiered. His offense was cheating at cards at Monaco, and as this is the second scandal of the sort within a twelvemonth in noble families, the feeling is very strong. Major Harbord is reported to have won £6,000 from a single person lately in London, and £7,000 at Monaco before he was found out and expelled from the rooms. He is a brother of the Lord Suffield who married a daughter of the late Henry Baring. He has stood well in the army and was a favorite in society—a tall, handsome fellow, I heard of one lady's remarking regretfully. It is said he will not be allowed the value of his commission, which is some £7,000, or just about the amount of his ill-got winnings. What touches Englishmen most nearly is that the thing occurred on the Continent, and so has brought reproach on the English name in general. Nothing is thought so base as dishonesty in play, the loss evaded by treacherous winning being a debt of honor. But the English character stands too high to be pulled down by one scoundrel, or even two. It is reported that George Russell, the other, who took refuge with the Khedive of Egypt after his expulsion from the English civil service, has been dismissed from his new employ at the request of the English Consul. G. W. S.

THE WESTERN SUFFERERS.

ADDITION TO THE TRIBUNE DOLLAR FUND

AN AGED GIVER.

To the Editor of The Tribune.

SIR: I am a daily reader of THE TRIBUNE, and from it have learned much of the sufferers at the West, and of your offer to aid them. I have greatly desired to assist them, but "silver and gold have I none," but it occurred to me that my hands which have "ministered to my own necessities" for almost four score years might labor to aid them in their great affliction. I have therefore made these rustic chairs which I hope you may sell at a fair (I think they would sell here for $1 each), or that some of your friends may wish them and thereby convert them into money. If these should sell without giving too much trouble, I should deem it a privilege to labor on in such a cause. Yours, * * *

New-York, Feb. 3, 1875.

[The diminutive chairs were disposed of for $10 40, which has been added to the Dollar Fund.—*Ed.*]

A CHURCH COLLECTION.

To the Editor of The Tribune.

SIR: Inclosed please find check for $14 70 for the relief of the Kansas and Nebraska sufferers, being a collection taken in the Methodist Episcopal Church, Gaylordsville, Conn. Please acknowledge in THE TRIBUNE and oblige yours, very truly,

REV. URIAH SYMONDS.

Gaylordsville, Conn., Feb. 22, 1875.

A FAMILY CONTRIBUTION.

To the Editor of The Tribune.

SIR: Inclosed find check for $6, being $1 for each member of my family, toward the Kansas and Nebraska Fund. Yours, &c., H. S. L.

Raritan, N. J., Feb. 25, 1875.

KANSAS AND NEBRASKA.

Cash	$1 00	S. W. J. and H., "Game of cribbage."	$5 00
N. & G. Lindsley, Orange, N. J.	5 00	H. S. L. and family	6 00
D. Aldrich, Lockport, N. Y.	2 00	Rustic chairs, from ——; net result	10 40
Mamma and Annie "The farm."	5 00	C. Smith, Newark, N. J.	3 50
S. J. Barnett, Lehighton, Penn.	10 00	Mrs. J. M. Cook, Newark, N. J.	1 00
Collection M. E. Church, Gaylordsville, Conn.	14 70	Geo. Peet, Marietta, Wis.	8 00
L. and wife	2 00	Kate and Kitty, New Haven, Conn.	3 00
A. DeF. Thompson, Readington, N. J.	1 02	G. J. G.	2 00
Elias R. Thompson, Readington, N. J.	1 00	W., East Berlin, Conn.	1 00
Josephine A. Thompson, Readington, N. J.	1 00	R. H. Rhodes, Gt. Barringt Mass	2 00
Cash	1 00	A. J. Avery, Groton, Conn.	2 00
Jno. H. Bonsack, Bonsack Depot, Va.	2 00	J. W., Crawford, Penn.	2 00
Mrs. Cutter	2 00	John Winn, Duquoin, Ill.	1 20
First fruits of increase	10 00		
A friend	1 50		
Total			$103 32

KANSAS.

K. K. F., Imlay City, Mich.	$1 00	Cash, Coleman's Station, N. Y.	$2 00
Total			$3 00

NEBRASKA.

Mrs. P. Morristown, Penn.	$5 00	M. E. H., Big Rapids, Mich.	$3 00
Total			$8 00

Summary of amounts received since Tuesday:	
Kansas and Nebraska	$103 32
Kansas	3 00
Nebraska	8 00
Total	$114 32
Previously acknowledged:	
Kansas and Nebraska	$8,395 46
Nebraska	1,553 05
Kansas	1,407 01
Total	$11,454 81
Forwarded to Kansas and Nebraska	10,100 00
Balance in hand	$1,354 81

TRACING AN IMPOSTOR.

MRS. SCHOEFER IN JERSEY CITY—HER UNSUCCESSFUL APPEAL TO THE REV. PHEBE A. HANAFORD.

To the Editor of The Tribune.

SIR: The "clever impostor," of whom your correspondent, "H. M. J.," speaks, has not confined her efforts to obtain sympathy, if not money, under false pretenses, to the City of New-York. She has crossed the Hudson. She has even climbed the "Hights." And in my back parlor, confidentially, she unfolded her tale of woe, drawing tears from the eyes of my friend (a lady whose heart is always warm toward the poor and friendless), but failing to make the slightest impression on my heart, previously hardened by reading a warning paragraph in your paper, which my friend had not seen. Possibly, if you had not so faithfully performed your duty as a wise guardian of the public good, she would have taken $7 out of our little store, for that was the sum Mrs. Schoefer needed, as she said, to keep her child from being buried in Potter's Field. Yet, as in New-York, she did not ask for money, but only for a letter from me to the officers of the hospital, vouching for her ability to pay the $7 at the end of the week. She wrung her hands and succeeded in weeping a little as she depicted in broken English her intense desire to have her crippled child's body rest by the side of its father in a cemetery this side of the river. Seeing that the child was to be buried at 4 p. m., and it was then after 2 p. m., I queried in regard to her reaching the hospital in time, but she seemed to have no doubt. Perhaps she was a female Mercury. When I said that she was an utter stranger to me, she declared that two of her children were in my Sunday-school, and very glibly gave their names, and the names of other children, mentioning also the little merit cards which were given out there, &c. The tears ceased to flow from my friend's eyes at this assertion, for she is acting Superintendent of the school, and had every name on her list, and every scholar in her mind, and saw at once that there was some mistake, to say the least. But the woman persisted, and declared she would come in the evening and bring her little girls, that we might be assured of the truth of her story. Finally, to insure her departure, I wrote a note, saying that I never saw the woman before, and knew nothing of the truth of her story, but that I hoped, if possible, they would let her have the body of her child. My sympathy was not very warmly expressed, nor was it emphasized by a single cent of money. I presume the note was very unsatisfactory, as I read it over to her. However, she took it and departed, and neither the children nor the woman came to see us that evening. I am anxious for her return that I may deliver her up to justice. If there be any law in the land that will reach such cases, its power should be felt by such miscreants, for by their impostures they dry up the fountains of sympathy in any community which is victimized by them. For one, I am ready to appear against all such impostors, not sparing even my own sex. It is a mistaken charity, and an unwise philanthropy which forbears to prosecute such attempts upon the credulity and sympathy of the public. Let THE TRIBUNE continue fearlessly to brand such impostors.

PHEBE A. HANAFORD, Pastor Universalist Church.

Jersey City, Feb. 24, 1875.

THURLOW WEED'S WARNING.

THE THIRD TERM A BUGBEAR.

From The Syracuse Standard (Rep.)

Mr. Weed does not claim that there is any evidence of President Grant's aspirations for a third term, nor of his nomination, nor that he would be elected if nominated. The whole thing is a bugbear, with which the Democratic and "independent" press frightened many good people last Fall. We do not believe that they can prolong the fright to another election. The ruse is too absurd, and the supposed contingency too impossible.

IDIOTIC BABBLE OF A THIRD TERM.

From The Ohio State Journal (Rep.)

Mr. Weed overlooks the clear intimation of the President that he would pay due attention to the third term matter at any time when it might be brought to his notice by any responsible body in any tangible form, but that he did not feel called upon to contradict newspaper rumors which were manifestly manufactured for campaign purposes. This statement, from a man of as few words as the President, and a man notoriously direct and single in his mode of speech, ought to have satisfied any reasonable being. No one, friend or foe, can suspect Gen. Grant of going a hair's breadth from a straight line to avoid any responsibility. That he should descend from his place as Chief Magistrate of the Nation and enter the lists with the political rumor mongers to contradict the idiotic bauble about Cæsarism and the third term, was a thing that no one with a just comprehension of his character could have anticipated.

A POLITICAL CRISIS.

THE GREAT ISSUE NOW BEFORE THE COUNTRY.

SHALL THE SOUTHERN STATES BE GOVERNED FROM WASHINGTON OR BE ALLOWED TO GOVERN THEMSELVES—THE PROSPERITY OF THE COUNTRY—THE NATURAL PRODUCT OF HOME RULE AND NOT OF WASHINGTON LEGISLATION.

[FROM AN OCCASIONAL CORRESPONDENT OF THE TRIBUNE.]

WASHINGTON, Feb. 27.—Congress is in the throes of its great agitation over the Southern question. The discussion is voluminous, though the issue is simple. This question is merely whether the Southern States shall be governed from Washington, or be allowed to govern themselves. One would think that this is not a very recondite problem. But it is all there is of it. It creates the one dividing line between parties.

Mr. Hoar and Mr. Frye find, on visiting Louisiana, that they have such bad people down that way that they require very good people to govern them. These, of course, can be found in Maine and Massachusetts. Mr. Hoar ought to see that at bottom his system is the carpet-bag system, only with improvements. And this system has not worked well. And it never will work well, as it is inherently vicious. Unless the nation is going to abrogate its system, Massachusetts must be allowed to have her own local government, and Louisiana must be allowed to have hers. It shocks Mr. Hoar to find how much lower the level of Louisiana civilization is than that of Massachusetts. No doubt. But does it help that to govern Louisiana from Washington? The voters of that State are vastly more ignorant than those of New-England. This cannot be disputed. But will it enlighten them to direct them from Washington? They have broils and murders down there, more than in Massachusetts. Can they be cured by putting the state under national supervision? or even by sending down Massachusetts and Maine men to teach a higher morality and better fashions?

Mr. Hoar and Mr. Frye fall into error by failing to view the subject from the proper point of view. They see great evils, and they want to remove them. They think Washington legislation will do it. This is their mistake. There are some things legislation cannot reach, and least of all external legislation applied by outside reformers. You cannot legislate virtue into a people nor vice out of them. This comes only from internal growth. And in the presence of such a tremendous social and political revolution as has taken place in the old Slave States, it becomes outsiders to be careful and reserved. To plunge in with the strong arm of brute force to settle difficulties and embarrassments growing out of fundamental changes between the races, which would compose themselves if left to time, is unwise and hazardous. The negro is freed, the negro is enfranchised, and the white man at the South cannot change the fact. It is a condition solidly imbedded in the Constitution and the laws, and there is no escape from it now or hereafter.

The negro's progress under this change must be left to other influences than irritating legislation sent on from Washington and enforced by alien hands. It is a system of foreign intermeddling, not in harmony with our system of government, which composes nothing and discomposes everything.

That there will be some injustice practiced, and some hardships to endure, in the transitionary condition of the South, is not only probable, but inevitable. But they cannot be cured by outside interference meddling with every detail. The progress of all civilization and the amendment of human condition has always been supremely slow. The white European has been a thousand years in reaching his present imperfect and still distracted state. And there is no patent method of securing an exemption from all trial and trouble to the African race among us any more than to the Saxon, or by which we or he can dispense with the two essential elements of time and patience.

I content myself with thus presenting in the fewest possible words, the one great political issue before the country, on which every voter must take sides, and prepare himself to stand in the immediate future. It involves the question of the public tranquillity, and the public prosperity, in their most vital relationships. The business of the country, and the peace of the country are alike concerned. It is a question whether the people of the States, now all alike free, shall rule themselves or be ruled by somebody else. It is a question whether we shall close the civil war or continue it. It is a question whether the Federal Government shall be an umpire or a partisan in political complications arising within the Union, from the vast changes of the last few years, whether it shall honor itself by its wisdom, its reserve, and its benignity, or dishonor itself by active groveling partisanship, in treating these subjects.

We cannot have any doubt on which side of this question the people of all the States will finally array themselves. Meantime there is to be a struggle. President Grant and his partisans have opened wide the door on the subject. It is he who has raised the issue, and apparently on personal grounds. The battle must be joined, whoever heads the forces, or whoever are his lieutenants. The country cannot afford to have this running sore remain open. It must be closed. The public tranquillity must be reassured. Confidence in the future must be established. Trade, commerce, all the material interests of the country, demand it. Justice, a restored nationality, the harmony of its parts, all moral and all political considerations, exact it. Without this tranquillity, and without this confidence, the country, especially the South, cannot recover the control of those moral and physical resources upon whose unhindered play its improvement and advancement alone depend. Every man not naturally a partisan or a bigot ought to see this. And also that it cannot come from or by Washington legislation, but simply and solely from Home Rule. J. S. P.

REBUILDING A POLITICAL TEMPLE.

HOW ARE REPUBLICANS TO COUNTERACT THE REVOLUTIONARY TENDENCIES OF THE ADMINISTRATION—THE MAIN BODY OF THE PARTY DISCERNING NOW THE EVILS THAT THE LIBERALS SAW IN 1872—THE DUTY OF REFORM AND CONSERVATIVE REPUBLICANS.

[FROM AN OCCASIONAL CORRESPONDENT OF THE TRIBUNE.]

WASHINGTON, Feb. 22.—There is a good deal of what may be termed concern felt here over the political agitations of the period. There is a widespread feeling that the Government is bent upon promoting and aggravating dangerous sectional animosities, for party and personal objects, instead of honestly discharging its duty in trying to compose them. The question asked, and often anxiously propounded, is what is to be done, what ought to be done, to avert the consequences of such a policy? It endangers the public peace, and it portends ruin to the party in power.

Well, President Grant's Arkansas message tends to the belief that further outrages will be practiced on the South, the precise effects of which it is difficult to estimate. But I have no doubt that the prospect of relief, coming through a probable change of administration, will tend to abate some threatening features of the situation, and that the nation may thus tide over difficulties which might otherwise present very grave aspects. As to party dangers, I suppose they are to be regarded rather in the past tense. The chances of Republican success in the future are very much spoiled already, and fresh experiments on the public patience can hardly make them worse.

More and more do I suspect that this feeling on the part of moderate Republicans is what renders so many of them indifferent to any serious and combined effort to arrest the downward course of things. They seem to argue that affairs are going rapidly to the bad any way, and whether that tendency is accelerated or retarded a little makes no difference in the final result. In fact, they would rather, on the whole, have President Grant's discomfiture complete than partial. If he chooses to sit on the safety-valve, they are disposed not to molest him.

It is from this point of view that I do not share the anxiety felt by the many well-meaning Republicans, who think that affairs ought to be managed so as not to add to the discredit of the Republican party, and that it ought to have at least a chance to recuperate; and who, above all, hold that it is a disgrace that affairs in the South are not administered in the interest of peace, stability, and honest government instead of for the purpose of advancing party objects and personal ambition at the expense of the quiet and prosperity of the country.

These views are very reasonable and sensible, to be sure, but the difficulty is that they are out of season. It is like casting about for anchoring ground after the ship is on the rocks.

The Reform Republicans of 1872 saw then what the main body of that organization are only beginning to see now. They have passed through their season of anxiety and mortification, and condemnation of the base uses to which the noble old party was put by the promiscuous crowd that took it in charge for selfish and venal purposes soon after Gen. Grant's election in 1868—a crowd that has been daily growing more promiscuous since, until now the present piebald and pudding-stone organization, if it could be mirrored as it actually exists, with all its debaucheries and excesses imprinted on its front, would never be mistaken by any one for that compact, vigorous, healthy, conscientious body whose name it has appropriated, and whose character it has disgraced. In 1872 it was plain enough to everybody who wished to see, that that was the time to reform, and an opportunity was offered by the Cincinnati Convention to do it, and to do it by Republican agencies and under conservative auspices of an unquestionable character. But the offer was declined and the opportunity was lost. Such men as Chief-Justice Chase, Charles Francis Adams, Charles Sumner, Horace Greeley, Carl Schurz, Lyman Trumbull, and others from the front ranks of early Republicanism, pointed out the way and urged the effort, but, as the event proved, to no purpose. It was not their fault, therefore, nor was it the fault of those who went with them, that the Republican party of to-day is not a Reform party, composed of the best men of all sides, and standing firm and resolute in its probity, commanding success and defying destruction, instead of being what it is—the representative of every immoral element of our politics, and condemned on every hand by the votes of the people.

Why should the Reformers of 1872 be anxious now; and how can they sympathize with those who think the old party might be and ought to be reconstructed by a recall of those who have left its ranks, who mourn over its declension and the coming loss of its power, and who, above all, lament and deprecate the coming reign of a triumphing Democracy? What can the Reformers of 1872 say but this: "Gentlemen, you scorned our counsels, you denounced our objects, you derided our methods, and thus you have only yourselves to blame for what has come upon you, and for what impends. You would not accept the only possible reform which was proposed by the conservative Republican agencies of that period, and now behold the consequences. We proposed a gentle medicine to cure an incipient disorder and thus save the patient by a timely remedy. Refusing this suggestion, you have willfully allowed the disease to spread until it has become incurable. Instead of a cured and rejuvenated party you have got a diseased and dying one. It is too late to apply remedies. We could not now help you if we would. The reform and salvation which were possible in 1872 were impossible in 1874, and will be impossible in 1876."

The case now seems to admit only of this statement and the following treatment. Those still in the Republican ranks and those who have withdrawn, who seek reform and honest government, can do much to shape the revolution in progress. They can do it by coöperation, and they can do it by declining to act, except by yielding or withholding approval as occasion and circumstances seem to require. It should be remembered that the revolution in progress cannot be consummated except by the consent of Republicans. The knowledge of this will inevitably temper its quality. The new Democratic House of Representatives at Washington will be obliged to remember this, or see its power begin to wane from the first day of its exercise. And so it will be throughout the country. It ought to be the business of conservative and reform Republicans everywhere to man this particular brake. It is a high standard of action both for the voter and the representative, and a firm and judicious exercise of the power will give us a reformed government. If it will not, it is fair to conclude that no other course will. The nation is seeing the deleterious effect of radical partisanship in the present state of affairs, and the last thing it wants is the same kind of exhibition on the other side. The nation must have a balance-wheel to prevent such dangerous oscillation. It is the peculiar business of the Reform Republicans to furnish it. They can and should do so.

It is only to follow the ordinary course of politics in all governments, of which ours has furnished conspicuous examples, and notably in the formation of the present Republican party. Parties that have failed in skill or honesty have been destroyed by secessions from their ranks, and other parties have been created or left to triumph by the seceders. This is the case in England to-day. The United States are following their example. Mr. Disraeli has declared since last August that he and his party have come into power, not because they were wanted, but because the English people were determined to have a change. The conditions here are similar, and likely to produce similar results. Reformers await the unfolding of the historic panorama with serenity and confidence. J. S. P.

THE THIRD TERM SCHEME.

IF A THIRD TERM WHY NOT A FOURTH?

From The Syracuse Courier (Dem.)

A while ago one could only at the risk of being called an alarmist insist that President Grant really and in truth was looking to the perpetuation of his rule and another term. It was deemed incredible that any President should presume to violate a precedent set by Washington, which has come to possess all the sanctity of the written constitution itself, and which, until now at least, every President has heeded without a thought to the contrary. This prediction sounds by no means so absurd or preposterous to-day as it then did. People are coming to believe that it may yet be verified. Grant's future relations to the country are already exciting apprehensions. If a third term, why not a fourth? If the example of Washington is to be disregarded in the one instance, if there is to be a break from the sacred traditions of the Republic, there is no telling where it may end. Elsewhere we copy a Washington letter to THE NEW-YORK TRIBUNE, headed "A bold push for the third term," which gives some insight into the general programme laid out by Grant and his third-term aiders.

IT CANNOT SUCCEED.

From The Utica Observer (Dem.)

Mr. James S. Pike, formerly Minister to Portugal, an early and active Republican, and a gentleman of generous culture, writes from Washington to THE NEW-YORK TRIBUNE saying: "One has not to be long in Washington to discover that all this Southern business means a third term." Mr. Pike is an impartial and careful student of events. What he has to say on this subject of a third term is not new to our readers. Grant does not care longer to conceal his ambition. He has never hinted that he would decline a renomination if he could secure one. He talks vaguely about leaving it to the people. But he knows full well that the people will have no voice in the control of the next Republican National Convention. With the undivided support of "the party" in the South, and with Conkling's aid in New York, he could carry that convention, though nine-tenths of the citizens of the United States were opposed to him. We await the unfolding of the President's plot without fear and without exultation. He is to be beaten. His attempt to usurp the Government is to be thwarted. But this end is to be reached by hard work and not through the paths of idleness. Let every patriotic citizen take heed, lest by his vote or his utterances he offers aid and comfort to the enemies of his country. In the preliminary elections the Republican party must be taught that it cannot carry Grant and live.

THE PEOPLE WILL NOT HAVE IT.

From The Albany Express (Rep.)

THE TRIBUNE of Monday published a letter from a Washington correspondent, which *The Argus* of yesterday copied, arguing that there is on the part of President Grant a settled intention of having himself renominated in 1876. We do not believe there is anything in it. THE TRIBUNE's argument is that Gen. Grant will, by making concessions to the worst element of Republicanism in the South, secure the vote of all the Southern States in the next National Convention, that proposition being, of course, based upon the assumption that the Republican machinery in the Southern States is in the hands of the worst class of politicians—an assumption which in some cases is undoubtedly correct. Next THE TRIBUNE thinks Gen. Grant will be able to control enough of the Northern Democratic States through the influence of official patronage to give him a majority in the Convention by aid of the Southern vote. Among the Northern States which he is thus expected to control New-York is placed by THE TRIBUNE's correspondent. And that shows just where he makes one grave mistake. Nine-tenths of the New-York Republicans are steadfastly, conscientiously, and upon principle opposed to a third term, and the State will never again send a delegation to a National Convention to vote for the nomination of Gen. Grant. What is true of New-York is, we doubt not, also true of other States mentioned in THE TRIBUNE's article. One thing is certain, the people will have no third term. Republicans are just as earnest in opposition to it as their Democratic opponents are, and will just as warmly signify their opposition, if necessary, when the proper time comes.

HIGHER MEDICAL CULTURE.

WOMEN TO HAVE LARGER OPPORTUNITIES.

AIMS OF THE ASSOCIATION FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF THE MEDICAL EDUCATION OF WOMEN—PRELIMINARY EXAMINATIONS, EXTENSION OF THE TERM OF STUDY, AND INCREASED FACILITIES IN LABORATORIES URGED.

The Association for the Advancement of the Medical Education of Women has originated in a widespread feeling that the presence of women among the classes devoted to the art of healing was a fact that henceforth could be modified but not set aside. The battle that has raged during the last 20 years over the admission of women to the medical profession has been occasioned only by their previous exclusion from a position which they occupied in former times. From this position they fell, or rather were driven, when medical schools became affiliated with universities, and when the State interfered to forbid the practice of medicine except upon conditions which practically excluded women. They were refused admission to the universities, because these institutions were generally developed from monasteries, or were under monastic influences. As soon, therefore, as university education became important or essential to physicians, women became unable to hold their place in the intellectual ranks of the latter; they fell from grade to grade, finally confining themselves to the most menial services and the merely manual labors of the art. That art therefore degenerated in their hands; it became a body without a soul, and as such was gradually extinguished.

The constant turmoil that has agitated the centuries since the Renaissance, and the urgency of questions that were more important to the general organization of society than that of the share of women in the privileges of its highest labors, have pushed into the background any dissatisfaction that might have been felt with this state of things. Here and there a special vocation made itself felt; an exceptional character or intellect won for itself an honored position among its cotemporaries, or an invention or a treatise was even handed down to posterity. There is to-day in the Astor Library a folio volume on Medical Botany, written in England in the eighteenth century, by Elizabeth Blackwell.

But when her modern namesake, perhaps descendant, requested fifteen or twenty years ago to be admitted to the study of medicine in the United States, there was a general howl of derision, and a dozen colleges shut their doors in the face of the aspirant. Thanks, however, to the heroic perseverance of the modern Elizabeth Blackwell, the howl of derision has died away, or only mutters *sotto voce* in remote corners. Prejudices survive in all forms and degrees, but the most serious obstacles in the way of women students to-day do not lie in opposition, nor prejudices, nor even in the profound moral convictions of those who are opposed to them, but in the lack of knowledge of those who are anxious to facilitate their progress. The general indifference in this country, in or out of the profession, to the establishment of such standards of medical education as exist in the rest of the civilized world seems to have been intensified among those who have attempted to educate women. Even in the best cases no greater effort has been thought necessary than that required to imitate the defective systems now obtaining in men's schools. Women admitted into the profession after an inferior training were submitted almost inevitably to a criticism which only a superior training could enable them to meet. The disadvantages under which women to-day frequently begin the study of medicine—disadvantages, however, which are lessening every year—render necessary more careful and philosophical education to secure the same average results.

The movement that has been initiated by the Association just formed for the advancement of the medical education of women is therefore a perfectly logical and natural one. Article 2 of the constitution of the Association declares that "the object of the Association shall be to raise the standard of such education."

Any person may become a member by the annual payment of $5 or upward toward its funds. An article in the by-laws invites persons interested in the objects of the Association to unite in groups of four or five, who shall collectively subscribe $100. All money raised by gift or annual subscription will be devoted to enlarging the course of instruction at present given at the Infirmary or Blackwell College, so as to enable this institution to work on the basis of an endowed school. Only schools entirely independent of the fees, the caprices, and the ignorance of students can assume the difficult and expensive responsibilities of a really superior education. The Association has already begun its work. At a meeting held at No. 110 West Thirty-fourth-st. a report was read by the Chairman of the Committee on Education, Dr. Isaac Adler. This report compares the systems of medical education in England, France, Germany, and America. The Philadelphia Female Medical College and the New-York Infirmary, popularly known as the Blackwell College, are the only regular schools especially devoted to women. Some points of Dr. Adler's report may be interesting to many beside those who have at heart the medical education of women.

In regard to the preliminary conditions required of those desiring to become students of medicine, Dr. Adler states that in France every applicant for registration at the École de Médicine must either be a Bachelor of Science (by having passed the requisite examinations in Latin, mathematics, and the elements of physics, zoölogy, chemistry, and botany), or else a graduate of a recognized foreign medical school. In Germany the candidate must have a "certificate of maturity," *i. e.*, of graduation from a gymnasium, which signifies that he has passed a thorough examination in Latin, Greek, history, German literature, and mathematics as far as analytical geometry; implying acquirements about equal to those of a Columbia College student at the end of his Junior year. In Great Britain a testimonial of proficiency, consisting either of certain degrees from one of the universities, or a certificate of examination from certain specified medical, surgical, or apothecaries' colleges, or British colonial or foreign literary bodies, is required of the student before he can enter any of the large public medical schools of the kingdom. In America, however, no preliminary examination or testimonials are required from a candidate for entrance to the medical schools or colleges.

In neither France, Germany, nor Great Britain is the period during which one can complete medical studies and take the degree of Doctor less than four years, while in some of the schools of these countries a longer time is required. In America three years' study is demanded, under the guidance of some duly qualified medical practitioner, which may include the time spent at the college, where two Winter sessions only are required. In the Woman's College of the New-York Infirmary, however, attendance on at least three Winter sessions, or two Winter and two Summer sessions, is required.

The next point of comparison is the gradation of the various studies. Here again Dr. Adler finds American colleges deficient. In most of them, except Harvard, clinical medicine, pathology, &c., are all studied at once, before a thorough acquaintance with anatomy and other rudimentary branches can be obtained, while in European schools a careful system of gradation is followed. In the New-York Infirmary students are advised to grade their course, but it is practically left to their own option.

Examinations in France take place at the end of each of the first three years, besides the examinations for the positions of hospital *externe* and *interne*, and during the last year of the course five examinations for the doctorate are undergone, including a written disputation and thesis. In Germany the student passes a severe examination at the end of the second year in the rudiments of chemistry, botany or mineralogy, and zoölogy, in comparative anatomy, human anatomy and physiology, before he is allowed to see anything of medicine proper or the hospitals. He then enters upon practical medicine, and his final examination at the end of five or six years is conducted by a commission appointed by the Government, and lasts several weeks. In Great Britain an examination on anatomy and physiology is held at the end of the second Winter session. At the end of the fourth year the "pass" examination is held, including practical examination in the wards of a hospital. In American colleges for men there is no official examination until the final one for the degree, although there are, during the Winter session, daily examinations ("quizzes") which are conducted by practitioners, who have not necessarily any recognized connection with the college, and which are largely attended, but not obligatory. The final examinations are by the professors, in the subjects severally taught by them, including a medical thesis, written by the candidate for a degree. In the New-York Infirmary a primary examination is required at the end of the first year in anatomy, physiology, chemistry, and materia medica, and a preliminary examination in the other branches is also required at the end of the second year, if graduation is contemplated in the following year.

The student of medicine in France is obliged to have a certificate of two years' attendance at the hospitals, or if he becomes an *interne*, he spends four years in hospital work. In Germany, after the first two years spent in outside study, the student enters the hospital, and is drilled at the bedside by the professor, and performs operations at the surgical clinique. In Great Britain a certificate of attendance at a hospital during three Winter and two Summer sessions is required; the student must also have performed the duties of clinical clerk and dresser at a hospital for periods of not less than three months each. In American colleges daily cliniques are held by the professors in the college building, at which ambulant cases are examined and explained, and the necessary treatment, medical or surgical, instituted, often including surgical operations of some magnitude. In New-York, no student is allowed to hold any official position in a hospital, but he is often permitted to serve for a short time in the capacity of Junior Assistant, during the absence of some member of the house staff. Daily cliniques are held at the New-York Infirmary, attendance upon which is optional with the student.

Speaking critically of the American system of medical education, Dr. Adler concludes that it offers to a diligent student the means of becoming an accomplished physician or surgeon, and that it holds out to those of sufficient discernment, certain strong inducements to avail themselves of these means to the utmost; but it fails in compelling this course, and thus leaves the door open for a streak of good luck or a feat of memory to enable an unworthy student to pass the examination and thus gain entrance to the profession. This would also tend to impair that sense of personal responsibility which for the sake of the public committed to their charge, it is so important that all physicians should strongly feel. It fails also to present its facilities in an advantageous manner, inasmuch as the curriculum is not graded, and thus the student wastes much of his time in listening to lectures which are beyond his comprehension at the time. Moreover, the course of instruction is crowded into too short a space, and too much attention is devoted to the practical, as compared with the elementary branches. In general the teaching is too didactic and not sufficiently demonstrative. Even anatomical studies, the basis of medicine, are careless and incomplete.

In most of the provincial colleges these errors are intensified. At Harvard, however, more or less seems to have been done to amend some of them, especially in the matter of grading the students according to their proficiency and the length of time they have pursued their studies. Dr. Adler therefore submitted to the Association the conviction of the Committee that a change in our system of medical education is urgently needed, and that the first step ought to include the following features:

1. A preliminary examination in general education.
2. An extension of the time of study to at least four years.
3. Gradation of the studies not merely advised, but made obligatory.
4. More attention devoted to the natural sciences, especially chemistry and botany.
5. Greater facilities for practical work, especially in chemical and physiological laboratories.

Dr. Hudson, Professor of Internal Pathology at the Women's Medical College, read a brief report on the facilities for clinical instruction existing in New-York, and open to women students. Dr. Hudson is Chairman of a Committee of the Association especially appointed on Hospital Instruction. Dr. Ernest Krackowizer, Dr. A. Jacobi, Dr. Mary Studley, and Miss Susan Van Amringe are members of this Committee. The report was merely preliminary, and did not propose methods for the effective utilization of facilities which are declared to be as fully open to the students of the Infirmary College as to those of any other medical school in the city. Such projects will be considered at another meeting of the Association. The following is a list of the officers of the Association:

President, Dr. Mary Putnam Jacobi; Vice-Presidents, Dr. Emily Blackwell, Dr. Wm. H. Thompson, Mrs. David Croly, Mrs. Laura Curtis Bullard; Secretary, Dr. C. A. Loring; Treasurer, Rob't B. Roosevelt.

Among members of the Association are many of the trustees of the New-York Infirmary and College, as Samuel Willets, Mrs. Lucius Tuckerman, Mrs. Kirby, Miss Julia F. Gould, Mrs. Thos. Hicks; also many prominent physicians, as Drs. Marion Sims, Fordyce Barker, Alfred Loomis, and others. The author of "Sex in Education," Dr. Edward F. Clark of Boston, is also an interested member of the Association which he has pronounced to be "excellent in its aims and practical in the methods by which it proposes to accomplish them." An enterprise that has received the sanction of the profession and the support of many interested in developing the highest professional education, now requires only to be sufficiently sustained by the wealth of the community to be enabled to carry out its high purposes.

UNDERGROUND TELEGRAPHY.

DEPENDENCE UPON THE PRESENT SYSTEM MUCH LONGER IMPOSSIBLE—INTERFERENCE OF THE WIRES WITH ONE ANOTHER—THE LAYING OF WIRES UNDER GROUND BY THE CITY GOVERNMENT AND TELEGRAPH COMPANIES IN COMBINATION.

To the Editor of The Tribune.

SIR: Having read with interest the articles that have appeared in THE TRIBUNE advocating the removal of the telegraph wires and poles from the streets and placing them under ground, I deem a few words on this interesting subject from one who has given many years of service to telegraphy, and considerable attention to the subject of underground wires, may shed some additional light and assist in hastening so desirable an event. The feasibility of wires under ground—at least for short distances—having been settled, the immense improvement in the appearance of the city that would result being manifest, the natural query is, Will it be done? The answer to this is, that it must be done sooner or later, for the simple but patent reason that there is not room for many more wires, and the demand for additional facilities shows no sign of decreasing. The growth of the telegraph in this city since 1860 has been astonishing. In that year there were less than 50 telegraphic lines in the city; there are at present about 800. Every through north and south street below Fourteenth-st. is incumbered with from one to four sets of poles and wires, and the housetops are covered with such a network of wires that it is extremely difficult to find space for more. The greater portion of this increase has occurred within the past five years; it therefore seems safe to predict that the present number will be doubled within the coming ten years.

The telegraphs, as at present constructed, are not only subject to interruptions by the elements, as has been stated in your columns, but they seriously endanger and interrupt one another by coming in contact, producing what telegraphers term "a cross," which is more dangerous to the trustworthiness of some systems of telegraphy, and a greater evil to all—from its frequency—than broken wires. It therefore follows that an increase of wires increases the interruptions and endangers the entire system. My own experience in city telegraphs has been that the great majority of interruptions are traceable to this cause. The inadequacy of the present system seems so apparent, the wonder is that the question has not been met before, and it is still more wonderful that the public have tolerated such obstructions and disfigurements so long, when a remedy could be provided that would not only place them out of sight, but make them safe and trustworthy in all emergencies.

The general public naturally look to those directly interested in telegraphs for such an improvement, but when it is taken into consideration that there are six or seven distinct telegraph corporations, each with its own wires, besides the city departments and a large number of wires owned and used by private individuals, it is apparent that a system that does not provide for all wants would fail to meet the requirements of the case. The expense of laying a portion of the wires under ground would be nearly as great as laying the whole. This is explained by the fact that the principal cost would be for the labor of excavating and replacing the streets, which would be no greater for a large than a small number of wires. It is, therefore, evident that when the work is done it must be by a method that will furnish wires for the entire wants of the city. It would be an endless and very expensive undertaking for each telegraph company to attempt to lay its own wires. It would seem, therefore, that the only way to bring about this desirable improvement is for one company or organization to provide a comprehensive plan that will provide for the entire present and future wants, and exact a yearly rental for such service. This can undoubtedly be done, and trustworthy wires furnished at a rental that would not exceed the present cost of maintaining air lines and yield a handsome return upon the outlay. I therefore arrive at the conclusion that some plan of this description, either undertaken by a private company or the City Government, will be found to be the only solution of the matter. Very respectfully,

C. KINNEY SMITH.

No. 300 East Fourteenth-st., New-York, Feb. 23, 1875.

THE QUESTION OF DUTY ON TEA.

To the Editor of The Tribune.

SIR: Letters have appeared lately in several journals on the above subject, all apparently emanating from the same source, namely, the tea importers, who in the absence of duty have found the trade for the last two years too steady for profitable speculation, and are desirous of having the duty reimposed. In order to influence public opinion in that direction various untrue statements have been made, which in the interest of truth should be corrected. One of the writers referred to says: "Every nation in the world but ours that imports tea to any extent, has duty on it." Now this is a most untrue statement. I believe France (which since the war has been obliged to tax everything) is the only considerable nation in Europe which taxes tea. It is now about thirteen years (namely, in 1862) since Great Britain—next to ourselves the largest consumer in the world—entirely swept away from her statute-book the last vestige of taxation on tea and coffee, wisely resolving that "the cup which cheers but not inebriates" should be made so cheap as to be within the reach of all.

Another statement which has been freely made is that the putting of a duty on tea would not make much difference in price to the consumer. One writer contends that it would not make a tax of more than 25 cents per head per year upon every man, woman, and child in the nation. Now I am a buyer of tea for a family and I know that such tea as I paid $1 50 a pound for when tea was taxed, I can now buy for about $1. There can be no doubt that although the tax might not exceed 25 cents per pound, the enhanced price to the consumer would not be less than 50 cents per pound, because, as the tax becomes a part of the price, a profit has to be charged upon it. To a family using one pound per week, this would make a tax of 50 cents per week. Now, although 50 cents per week is a small matter to the rich, it is a serious thing to a poor man whose weekly wages are barely enough to buy necessaries for his family. It would, therefore, be an oppressive tax to the poor. Again, tea and coffee are harmless and healthful beverages, and a wise and paternal policy would seek to make them cheap in order to promote their free use, and rather lay taxes and restrictive imposts upon such articles as ardent spirits and tobacco, the inordinate use of which is attended with great evils, and is especially destructive to health and morality. J. A.

New York, Feb. 24, 1875.

"READING IN THE SCHOOLS."

To the Editor of The Tribune.

SIR: THE TRIBUNE containing the editorial on "Reading in Schools" came to our far country home the day that we had been discussing the same subject. We came to the conclusion that the history of the United States should be a reading-book, instead of some of the very long series of readers. Many persons who are graduated from our common schools have no knowledge of the history of their own country. They perhaps have small means for buying books, and little leisure for reading when out of school. When in school they must have all the "readers" up to the "fifth;" perhaps there are sixth and seventh readers. The readers are no doubt a good collection of scraps of literature, but, after one or two have been read thoroughly, it would be far better to have something more useful.

For the future voters of our country would it not be well to have such books as Nordhoff's "Politics for Young Americans," as well as the United States History? We heartily thank you for an excellent article and hope it will not be the last on this important subject. TWO WHO ARE NOT VOTERS.

Romulus, N. Y., Feb. 23, 1875.